IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Edward B. Zalenski et al.

Application No. 10/750,173

Filed: December 31, 2003

For: INSERTER INSTRUMENT AND IMPLANT

CLIP

Conf. No. 5023

Group Art Unit: 3775

Examiner: Michael J. Araj

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via EFS Web on the date shown below

Signature:

(Ronald E. Cahill)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the reversal on appeal of all prior rejections, and before the mailing of any action by the Examiner on remand.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this

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Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56 (b).

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

No fee is believed to be due with this filing, however, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 101896-719.

Respectfully submitted,

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